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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hitoshi TSUCHIYA Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.: 10/678,313 Examiner: Tai V. Duong

Filed: October 6, 2003 Docket No.: 116788

For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE AND ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the March 23, 2005 Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Species A with traverse. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4 and 13-16 are readable on the elected Species. Further, at least claims 1 and 16 are generic to all species.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner <u>must</u> examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

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unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:DAT/fpw

Date: April 6, 2005

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